

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 123144 TOSEC 130004

64

ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 /021 R

DRAFTED BY: S/S-O D MACK

APPROVED BY: S/S-O D MACK

----- 086064

P 191801Z MAY 76 ZFF6

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY AIRCRAFT PRIORITY

INFO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 123144 TOSEC 130004

FOL TEL SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO MOSCOW ATHENS MUNICH ANKARA
BELGRADE BERLIN BONN BUDAPEST LONDON PARIS PRAGUE SOFIA WARSAW
USBERLIN NATO DIA CIA FROM BUCHAREST DTD 19 MAY 1976 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 2834

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MOPYXN PINS, PINT, RO, UR

SUBJECT: ANTI-SOVIET SCARE AND TROOP CALL-UPS.

REF: BUCHAREST 2828

1. DAO REF (NOTAL) PROVIDES EVIDENCE OF RUMORED
ROMANIAN TROOP CALLUPS AND OTHER POSSIBLE EXERCISE
MEASURES TAKEN DURING APPROXIMATELY LAST WEEK. SINCE
REFTEL'S TRANSMISSION, FURTHER CASES OF ABRUPT CALLUPS
BEEN VERIFIED FROM LOCAL SOURCES. FOLLOWING IS EMBASSY'S
JUDGEMENT OF WHAT IS HAPPENING AS OF MAY 19.

2. EVIDENCE SUGGESTS THERE HAS BEEN A
CALL-UP OF ROMANIAN CIVILIAN RESERVISTS OF UNKNOWN
SCOPE. RESERVISTS HAVE MOBILIZED IN EASTERNLY
DIRECTION. WE ASSUME THAT AN EXERCISE IS OCCURRING
OR ABOUT TO OCCUR IN MOLDAVIA OR POSSIBLY DOBROGEA FACING
THE SOVIET BORDER BASED ON OUR SAMPLING OF RUMORS.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 123144 TOSEC 130004

3. THE CONTEXT OF THIUGEVENT IS RECENT FANNING

OF ROMANIA'S ALREADY INTENSE NATIONAL-PATRIOTISM CAMPAIGN. ANOTHER OUT-OF-VIEW ESCALATION OF CAMPAIGN TOOK PLACE JUST BEFORE CEAUSESCU'S MAY 8 SPEECH WHEN PARTY AGITATORS PUT OUT WORD TO SELECTED PARTY AND YOUTH CELLS THAT SOVIETS WERZCPRESSURING ROMANIA MORE DIRECTLY AND CALLING INTO KQUESTION ROMANIAN RIGHTS AND PARTICULARLY TO DOBROGEA BUT ALSO MOLDAVIA AND TRANSYLVANIA. THERE PROBABLY HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE GARBLING OF WHAT WAS ACTUALLY SAID WITH ECHOES AT SECOND AND THIRD HAND APPARENTLY MAGNIFYING THE IMMINENCE OF THE "SOVIET THREAT".

4. OUT JUDGMENT IS THAT PARTY ACTIVISTS WERE DELIBERATELY BUT PRIVATELY CONVEYING SENSE OF SHARPENED HISTORICAL POLEMICS (SEE EMBASSY'S PREVIOUS REPORTING, PARTICULARLY BUCHAREST 2394, NOTAL), BROADLY OUTLINING INTENTIONS OF SOVIETS AND THEIR CLIENTS, WITH THE PURPOSE OF BOLSTERING THE PATRIOTIC BACKSTIFFENING CAMPAIGN NOW GOING ON. PURPOSE MAY BE TO DEMONSTRATE ANEW ROMANIAN NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, UNITY, AND RESOLVE BY FANNING POPULAR CONCERN ABOUT SOVIET PRESSURE. NEXT "VIGILANCE" HIGH POINT WILL BE ROMANIAN CULTURAL CONGRESS IN JUNE.

5. WHAT "OBJECTIVE" CAUSE MAY LIE BEHIND ROMANIAN CONCERN IS STILL UNCLEAR TO US. WE RECALL THE "GREAT CORRIDOR SCARE" OF SPRING AND SUMMER 1974 WHICH IN OUR VIEW INVOLVED ROMANIA'S LEAKING AND MANIPULATING A BIT OF "FIRE" TO CREATE MUCH "SMOKE". ANOTHER EUING POSSIBILITY (RAISED IN DAO SEPTTEL) IS THAT ROMANIANS ARE PROVIDING POLITICALLY-MOTIVATED COUNTERPOINT TO SCHEDULED EAST EUROPEAN TROOP ROTATIONS. A MORE SINISTER INTERPRETATION WOULD FOLLOW IF SOVIETS ARE FOR SOME REASON SHUFFLING OR MOVING TROOPS EAST OF THE PRUT RIVER FOR POLITICAL REASONS CONNECTED WITH ROMANIA'S BOLDER ASSERTION LATELY OF HER LATENT HISTORICAL CLAIM TO BESSARABIA.

6. WHAT IS CLEAR IS THAT RUMORS ARE SPREADING LIKE
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 123144 TOSEC 130004

WILDFIRE (AS OFTEN HAS HAPPENED) IN BUCHAREST. PANIC BUYING BEGAN MAY 18, ONE INDEX OF POPULAR UNEASE. WITH NEW YORK TIMES MALCOM BROWN IN TOWN AND ON THE BEF ARABIAN SCENT, WESTERN MEDIA ATTENTION COULD FOLLOW SHORTLY.
BARNES UNQTE ROBINSON

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, MOBILIZATION, POLITICAL SITUATION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 19 MAY 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE123144
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: O D MACK
Enclosure: DG ALTERED
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760194-0359
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760536/aaaabemk.tel
Line Count: 113
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BUCHAREST 2828
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 APR 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <05 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ANTI-SOVIET SCARE AND TROOP CALL-UPS.
TAGS: PFOR, MARR, MOPS, PINS, PINT, RO, UR
To: SECRETARY AIRCRAFT SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006